

Newbury March 8th 1848

My Dear Mother

I have been thinking some time past of writing you a letter, not so much to gratify you perhaps as myself, by stimulating you to write to me again.

I desire very much to hear from you.

Sister Julia wrote me a few days since & told me that you were considerably troubled with cold & caught this winter. I hope it is nothing very serious. We have had a most delightful winter here & we have all grown stout and robust. Mrs Weston has not been so well I think for 16 years. Lucy is uniformly well & I am becoming quite fat. I wish you could spend a winter with us.

These tremendous snow drifts - black winds & driving storms at the North - oh it makes me chilly to think of them. We have been very much encouraged in church affairs. Our congregation has greatly increased & at our communion since our return which is monthly, there have been some additions to our number. The Holy Comforter in His still

small voice I hope is with us. I have recently
baptized 5 fine Adults. No other this week
how signified an earnest desire to come to the
Communion next Sabbath. Our Lecture Season
has commenced & I have the Church open for
service & Lecture on Wednesday & Friday of each
week. Three Roman Catholics, or those who
were formerly such, have joined our church
& as yet appear zealous & devoted Christians.

I hope & sometimes I think I believe
the Lord has in store for us, an abundant
blessing. I have never been more encouraged
since I have been in the Ministry. I have
given up almost all worldly cares. have given

Charlotte the purse. She provides for the
family. I labor with her, & thus I de-
vote my time exclusively to the high &
solemn work of the sacred Ministry.

I desire to redeem the time if possible
that I may become valiant for the truth
in this opulent and wicked City. The Lord
is surely doing great things for New Orleans, &
we rejoice at it. There are fine times the
number attending our churches now that

there were when I came here, three years

ago. And the prospect is growing brighter
& brighter. I hope you will not, nor any
of our friends feel uneasy about us. The
ensuing summer, if we live to see it.

We have no fears about remaining here.
It is not very probable that we shall leave
a sickly season. But if we do, we shall en-
deavor to do our duty & leave results with
our All-wise Heavenly Father. I doubt not
He will always be with us. And with Him
for our Good Protector & Friend we are just
as safe in one place as another. Methinks
you sometimes rejoice that your pilgrimage
is near at an end, & that you will soon be
released from this burden of clay, and that your
freed spirit shall wing its way to that bright
world where so many of your early friends
have gone before you. And when you will meet
them again & especially will be permitted to
see the Saviour in His glory. I think it is good
for us to meditate profoundly & frequently upon
our blissful home in the skies. It serves to re-
assure us to many a weary step in our pas-
sage thither. To write me soon. All send love
to you. And all the families of our congregation at
New Orleans. Tell Prister to write.

Yours affectionately Love N. P. Bledsoe

Rev. W. D. Porter.

N. Orleans

Nov. 1848

to Mother Taber

My dear

W. Lawrence

Gouverneur

Mrs. Mary P. Foster
to care of W. D. Porter Esq.

